



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

November 2016

Officers

Jimmy Gunn
President
Woodmere Dr.
277-7667

Jessie Donaldson
1st Vice President
Forest Grove Ct.
271-4428

Wil Glasgow
2nd Vice President
Green Way Dr.

Mable Pryor
Secretary
Arbor Glen Dr.
260-2941

Phyllis Tillery
Treasurer
Woodmere Loop
270-1430

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

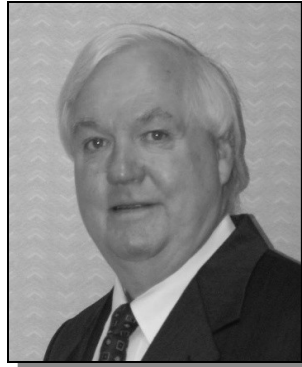
www.woodmeremontgomery.com

info@woodmeremontgomery.com

On Facebook at
www.facebook.com/woodmeremontgomery

Woodmere News

President's Commentary



Jimmy Gunn, WNA President



The Arlene Gomez Memorial Bench in Woodmere Park. See page 3.

The Fall Season, also known as Autumn, has finally arrived in Woodmere. Fall marks the transition from summer into winter, when the arrival of night becomes noticeably earlier and the arrival of day becomes noticeably later. The temperature cools down considerably. Fall is my favorite season. We can finally put away our lawnmowers and bring out the rakes.

Speeding and running of three way signs in Woodmere continues to be a problem. Our MPD officers are trying to slow down speeders and those that run the three way stops, but they can't be there all of the time. If you are a resident of Woodmere, please obey the speed limit and do not run the stop signs. Let's set the example. The WNA will continue to reach out to the MPD to continue patrols in our area.

The next WNA General Meeting will be on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 6:30PM at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Our featured speaker will be Mr. Charles Jinright. This will be the night that we elect officers. If you have a desire to serve as an officer for the coming year, let me or a member of the board know. We will also be discussing what we would like to see happen in Woodmere next year as to beautification projects and anything else of interest to the neighborhood. Please plan to attend this very important meeting. As always, thanks to everyone for making Woodmere a beautiful, clean and safe place to live in in the city of Montgomery.

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association has recently adopted a one mile stretch of city-maintained streets as part of the Montgomery Adopt A Mile Program which allows groups

See Page 3

Woodmere Neighborhood Association Meeting

Thursday, November 10, 2016 6:30 p.m.

Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium

Speaker: Charles Jinright

Chairman, Montgomery City Council

The WOODMERE NEWS is the official publication of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association, PO Box 231473, Montgomery, Alabama 36123.

Website:
www.woodmeremontgomery.com.

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This issue was edited by Sam Whatley and Jessie Donaldson

City Contacts

Mayor's Office
625-2000

City Council
625-2097

Animal Control
625-2970

Police
625-2651

Fire
625-2400

Ordinance Violations
311

For all emergencies, call
911.

Financial Report

Phyllis Tillery, Treasurer

	July	August	September	2016	Budget
Beginning Balance	2,810.07	2,999.04	2,744.04	2,744.04	
Income					
Membership Dues, Plus Online Dues	373.97	125.00	48.97	2,876.91	3,750.00
Advertisements	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Handbooks	15.00	5.00	0.00	160.00	0.00
Total Income	388.97	130.00	48.97	3096.91	3,750.00
Expenses					
Newsletter	0.00	385.00	0.00	1166.00	1500.00
Day in the Park	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00
Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	.00	428.28	100.00
Meeting Room	200.00	0.00	0.00	320.00	200.00
Printing Handbooks	0.00	0.00	0.00	195.26	0.0
Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
Yard Sale	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	374.00	200.00
Spring & Fall Clean-Ups	0.00	0.00	0.00	155.85	100.00
Post Office Box Rental	0.00	0.00	51.00	102.00	102.00
Total Expenses	200.00	385.00	51.00	2766.39	3,750.00
Ending Balance	2,999.04	2,744.04	2,742.01		

Visit us online at www.woodmeremontgomery.com

At Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts



The Political Persuader: Cartoons by Frank M. Spangler, Sr. Sept. 24—Nov. 27

During his 41 years as the *Montgomery Advertiser's* editorial cartoonist Frank Spangler (Spang) explored the contested and controversial politics of his day, especially the Presidential election of 1928 and the state election of 1930. For a different slant on local history, visit the museum this fall.

President's Commentary *continued from p. 1*

like the WNA to help keep Montgomery a great place to live in. Litter costs the taxpayers of Montgomery thousands of dollars each year. Littered areas can also lower property values and hurt in economic development and community pride. We will be responsible for litter control on both Carmichael Road and Woodmere Boulevard starting at the Eastern Bypass and running through the Woodmere subdivision. We would ask if you live or work along this route to routinely monitor and remove the trash in and along the street. The city has placed three (3) Adopt A Mile Montgomery road signs with the WNA name on them along the route. Let's all do our part to make this a success.



Clean Up Your Neighborhood

Paul Wise, WNA Streets and Sidewalks Chairman, invites you to call 311 to report streets or sidewalks that need repair. If that fails, call him at 244-0079 or email him at paulwise@charter.net.

Nextdoor

The City of Montgomery is now on Nextdoor. City departments, including the Police Department, will now be able to post bulletins and announcements on the Nextdoor blog. You can read their posts but they can not read our posts.

New MPD APP Available

There is a new Montgomery Police Department app available for your smart phone or tablet. The app is free and can be easily downloaded from your App Store or Play Store. The new app allows phone contact with the police without having to dial and allows citizens to submit tips or alerts directly to the police department from within the app.

Cissy's Critters

Need Someone to care for your pets while you are away?
Reasonable Rates, Dependable Service and LOTS of Tender Loving Care!!!
 (334) 271-6593 Cell: (334) 301-4283

A Christmas CAROL

At Alabama Shakespeare Festival

November 20—December 24

Witness Scrooge's search for redemption amid a spectacle of ghosts, spirits, festivity, and goodwill. A true holiday tradition.



October 22nd three of Arlene Gomez's four sons attended the dedication of the bench that honors their mom for her service.

Arlene Gomez Memorial Bench Dedication Oct. 22, 2016

A Woodmere Park bench was dedicated in honor of Arlene Gomez, an active member of WNA for many years. She was affectionately known as "Crime Dog." Friends, neighbors, and family members attended the dedication. Thanks to Eagle Scout candidate Travis Moody who designed and prepared the site and installed the bench. Thanks also to City Council Chairman Charles Jinright who provided funds for the bench. The WNA was glad to honor a true friend of Woodmere.

Chasing Our Tales XVI

Welcome. This will be the 16th time we have visited here with Chasing Our Tales. We will get right to it and pick up our story immediately after the terrible massacre at Ft. Mims, Alabama on August 30, 1813.

After the horrors at Ft. Mims had concluded (see Chasing Our Tales XV), many of the Red Stick Creek Indians realized what they had done and began to fear the retaliation that was sure to come, especially William Weatherford. A rapid and immediate march to the north was commenced with the idea of reaching a safer more defensible location. Unfortunately, a number of the Red Sticks did not have their blood lust satisfied. About 100 of the Red Stick warriors, led by Josiah Francis, the prophet (brother in-law of Sam Moniac) (also spelled Manack), moved north toward Ft. Sinquefield in present day Clarke County (see Chasing Our Tales VII, Summer 2014, Woodmere News). Ft. Sinquefield was located near the present day town of Grove Hill and the community of Whatley, Alabama on U.S. Highway 84. Sinquefield was named in honor of an early settler in the area whose abandoned cabin still stood near the fort.

Most of the area residents had taken refuge within the stockade walls of Ft. Sinquefield during the previous weeks due to the fears and warnings about the marauding Red Sticks following the skirmish at Burnt Corn. The fort was extremely crowded since it consisted of only about one acre surrounded by a 12-foot high palisade wall and contained about 15 families. Since it appeared nothing was going to happen, in late August the families of Ransom Kimball and Abner James left the fort out of boredom and moved to Kimball's plantation home about two miles from the fort.

On September 1, 1813, just two days after the Ft. Mims massacre, a group of 100 Red Stick warriors led by Josiah Francis attacked the Kimball plantation. Just the night before, on the evening of August 31, the dogs outside the plantation home had begun to bark furiously and the sounds of people running outside were heard. For some forever unknown reason, the families did not leave for Ft. Sinquefield the next morning. At about 3:00 p.m. on September 1, while Ransom Kimball was away from the house, the Red Sticks struck and surrounded the house before the people inside realized what was happening. Abner James and a man named Walker were outside the house involved in a conversation when the attack started. James and Walker, along with James' son, Thomas, and daughter, Mary, immediately fled to Ft. Sinquefield unharmed although they were fired upon by the hostiles.

Isham Kimball, one of Ransom Kimball's sons, realized what was happening to his family and immediately ran away after grabbing a younger brother who was in the plantation blacksmith shop. The two boys fled through the woods and were spotted by the Indians who began firing at them. The two boys had to cross a small creek as they fled toward the fort. While crossing the creek, Isham fell and injured his head. When he recovered, his younger brother was nowhere to be found. Nothing more was ever known about what happened to the younger child. Isham made it to the vicinity of the fort where two men in the fort, Thomas Matlock and John O'Gwynn, heard the gunfire and ran out to help Isham inside the fort.

On that day, 12 members of the Kimball and James families were killed and scalped, most of which were women and children. The Red Sticks continued the attack proceeding to the fort. A group of women were washing clothes at a spring near the fort and the Indians tried to cut them off from the fort. A large group of dogs (said to be about 60) were released from the fort discouraging the Indians and allowing the women to

make it to the fort. One woman, Sarah Phillips, wife of Charles Phillips Jr., was killed before the group could make it to the fort. A furious battle ensued during which one of the occupants of the fort, Stephen Lacey, was killed along with several Red Stick warriors. The battle lasted about two hours after which the Indians withdrew and continued their march to the north toward a place called the Holy Ground. The survivors at the fort left Siquiefield soon after and fled to Ft. Madison, a much larger fort several miles to the south.

During the attack on the Kimball-James families, Sarah Merrill, a married daughter of Abner James, was struck down with a Creek war club and presumed dead along with her infant son. When Mrs. Merrill was struck down, she was immediately scalped by the Creeks. Fortunately, the blow with the war club was a glancing blow which left her unconscious. Sometime during the night, a light rain fell and revived her. Blood covered her neck and shoulders from the knife wound of the scalping and the blow of the war club. Upon coming to her senses, she immediately began to search for her infant son. Somehow she found the baby in the dark and the baby was alive although weak. She nursed the baby and began a slow painful walk to Ft. Siquiefield. Along the way, she realized she was too weak to carry the baby and make it to the fort. Mrs. Merrill found a dry hollow log and hid the baby inside the log hoping she could manage to struggle to the fort to send help back to locate her son.

In the early morning hours, the defenders of the fort were astonished to see a white woman, scalped and covered with blood, struggling to reach the fort. Based on her directions, men from the fort were able to locate the baby in the hollow log and mother and baby survived the brush with death.

Ironically, during the attack, Sarah Merrill's husband was traveling with a group of militia to a place called the Holy Ground where they expected to find a large group of hostile Red Sticks. A messenger left Siquiefield during the night after the attack and caught up with the militia to deliver news of the Kimball-James massacre. The messenger informed Merrill that his family was dead. Merrill was grief-stricken but he knew he could not help his family now so he marched on with the militia. A furious battle followed at Holy Ground and Merrill was seriously wounded. A messenger was dispatched back to Siquiefield and somehow the message was garbled resulting in Sarah Merrill believing her husband was dead.

Merrill recovered from his wounds, and believing that his family was dead, had no desire to return to the scene of the tragedy at Siquiefield so he struck out for Tennessee. Sarah Merrill and her husband, believing each to be dead, eventually remarried and Sarah Merrill became Sarah Holtam. Sarah would live a long life although she could never remain in the sun for long because of the wound on her head from being scalped.

The next time we meet with Chasing Our Tales, we will talk about a famous battle that happened next in a canoe and more about this place called Holy Land. What happened next is a matter of history and part of Chasing Our Tales.

NOTE: previous visits with Chasing Our Tales are available by visiting www.woodmeremontgomery.com and viewing previous editions of the Woodmere News newsletter.



Salute To Fall

I love the Fall
With colors so bold,
Red and yellow,
Orange and gold.

Bright blue skies
Cool fresh air,
Pumpkins and scarecrows
And going to the Fair.

Thanksgiving is coming too
With time to gather around,
With all of our loved ones
Where blessings abound.

Our nighttime comes sooner
And daylight time soon ends,
So welcome to Fall
And the season my Friend.

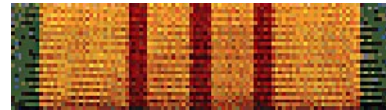
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WNA General Meeting

The next Woodmere Neighborhood Association General Meeting will be November 10, 2016 at 6:30 at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts Auditorium. Please make plans to attend. We will elect new officers for 2017. Membership dues for 2017 become due starting in November. It is only \$25 and the funds go to support the programs and efforts of the WNA. Your money stays in Woodmere to support the Woodmere Neighborhood.

50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration

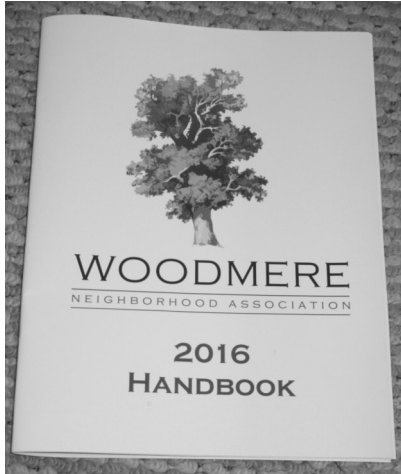


Authorized by Congress, established under the Secretary of Defense, and launched by the President in May 2012, the Vietnam War Commemoration recognizes all men and women who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from Nov 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975. Nine million Americans, approximately 7 million living today, served during that period, and the Commemoration makes no distinction between Veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years. All answered the call of duty.

More than 329 VA medical centers, regional benefit offices and national cemeteries will host events, many in partnership with local Veteran service organizations and volunteers. By presidential proclamation issued on May 25, 2012, the Commemoration extends from its inaugural event on Memorial Day 2012 through Veterans Day 2025.

Approximately 2,600,000 soldiers actually served within the country of South Vietnam from 1965 to 1973. These are the dates that the Veteran's Administration uses to verify service as a Vietnam War Veteran. Much less than 850,000 are estimated to be alive today. The 2.6 million that served in Vietnam represent only 9.7% of their generation. More than 90% of that generation did not serve in Vietnam. 58,272 of these soldiers lost their lives in Vietnam. 61% of those killed were less than 21 years old. The peak number of soldiers in Vietnam was 543,482 during April, 1969. 25% of those serving were draftees. At least 60% of those who served fought in combat, close combat support or were regularly exposed to enemy attack. Six out of 10 people saw combat or were regularly exposed to attack.

This Veteran's Day, November 11, 2016, numerous civic organizations, veteran's organizations and others will hold special ceremonies commemorating the Vietnam War Veterans. Please make plans to attend one of these ceremonies.



Order your 2016 Handbook today by adding \$5.00 to your \$25.00 membership on page 8, or by paying \$5.00 at the meeting November 10th.

Yard Sales

The Fall Season is a great time to have yard sales with all of the cool, beautiful weekends. However, left-over yard sale signs in yards and on street corners make our neighborhood look cluttered. Please remember to take down all of your sale signs after the event is over. Let's all help to keep our neighborhood beautiful. Remember it is a violation of a city ordinance to attach yard sale signs or any other sign or bulletin to utility poles of any sort.

Parking In Front Yards

It is a violation of a city ordinance Section 27-395 to park on the grass in your front yard. An exception is allowed for vehicles parked no more than three hours within a 24-hour period if for the purposes of loading, unloading or washing. Violations of this ordinance are subject to a fine of \$50. Each calendar day in which a violation occurs will constitute a separate violation and an additional \$50 fine.

The Woodmere Neighborhood Association 2016 Handbook.

- ◆ Maps of Woodmere including the entire area and all 6 zones with actual block numbers for every one of the 792 houses.
- ◆ Shading to show every block captain's assigned streets.
- ◆ A listing of all officers, members of the Board of Directors, zone coordinators, and chairs of committees.
- ◆ A history of the Woodmere Neighborhood Association.
- ◆ The WNA By-laws.
- ◆ Up to date City Ordinances that affect you such as:
 - Trash pickups, Cutting grass, Abandoned cars, Parking on your lawn
- ◆ Internet and phone contacts for major city offices such as police, fire, city council, mayor, animal control, parks and recreation etc.
- ◆ Information about Blount Cultural Park, ASF, and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts. Get your WNA 2016 Handbook at the meeting

Helping The Montgomery Police Department

Waldo Spencer, Arnold Thompson, and Gerry Shook are members of the WNA who have volunteered a combined total of 23 years with the Montgomery Police Department. There are approximately 65 active Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) who have saved the city over \$300,000 last year and have put in over 2500 hours per year for the 12 years that the program has been in Montgomery.

Duties vary among the volunteers including: checking homes of residents who are on vacation, assisting the MPD at headquarters and other MPD locations, and helping with special events. Are you 55 years old or older? Can you give at least 4 hours per week to help the MPD? Contact Community Policing at 240-4800 for information.



Seen at the Stratford Place Spring Block Party. Debi Whatley, Rose Shook, Bernice Blount, Millicent Collins, Charles Collins, Sherry Cook, Gerry Shook, and Hal Dodson. Their Fall Block Party will be in November. Have you considered having one on your block? It's a good way to meet and keep up with your neighbors.



WOODMERE
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2017 Membership Form

Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123
www.woodmeremontgomery.com
info@woodmeremontgomery.com

NAME

NAME

NAME

NAME

STREET

HOME PHONE

WORK/CELL PHONE

WORK/CELL PHONE

EMAIL

EMAIL

Date: _____

New Association Member Renewal

Please indicate your preference for receiving correspondence from the Association for such items as the newsletter, meeting notices, etc. Email Door mail

Association dues are \$25 annually. All memberships expire on December 31.

Woodmere Neighborhood Association 2016 **Handbooks are available for \$5.00.** Add this to your \$25.00 membership and mail today.

The Association is always looking for indicate areas of interest:

- Membership
- Special Events
- Crime Watch
- Newsletter
- Newsletter Distribution
- Block Captain
- Other skills/interests _____



volunteers. Please

Please note:

We send out neighborhood notices via email. If you provide your email address, you will receive these notices. We also send out emails about lost and found pets. If you have any questions or concerns, please send us an email.

Please send your \$25 or \$30 (for handbook) check payable to:
Woodmere Neighborhood Association
PO Box 231473
Montgomery, Alabama 36123

For WNA Use Only
Check No. _____
Amount: _____
Date: _____